**Enoch and the Gorilla vs A Good Man is Hard to Find**

Flannery O’ Connor

At first glance, Flannery O’ Connor’s short stories, “A Good Man is Hard to Find” and “Enoch and the Gorilla,” the two stories seem very different. However, if you look deeper into the stories there are many similarities.

One of the similarities is the main character. In both stories, the main character feels like a misfit and feel like they have a terrible life. In “A Good Man is Hard to Find” the main character, The Misift, feels like his name describes, a misfit. He feels like his life is terrible and that he is unfit for the world. In “Enoch and the Gorilla” the main character, Enoch, feels the same way. He hates his life and feels like the world is against him. Enoch’s first encounter with the gorilla occurs because he feels the need to prove himself.

The second similarity is the tool carried by the main characters. Both Enoch and The Misfit carry a tool around to make them feel safe. In “A Good Man is Hard to Find,” The Misfit carries a gun to make himself feel safe and secure. It gives him power and makes him feel like he is above everyone else. In “Enoch and the Gorilla,” Enoch carries around an old umbrella that his landlady gave him. He takes what was left of the silk on the umbrella, only leaving the hinges. He then takes the hinges and bends them out. This makes a very pointy end. Enoch walks the streets with the “torture device” under his arm feeling distinguished and prideful.

The third similarity is the theme of the stories. The theme in both stories is that some people will do anything to live the life they want to live. For example, Enoch saw that people were excited and anxious to shake Gonga’s hand so he wanted that same feeling. This caused him to steal the gorilla suit, and people still didn’t want to shake his hand and run off. The Misfit feels the same way. He carries a gun around and kills people because he knows that regardless of what he does now, he is going to go to jail.